(c) by when Government proposes to review/implement its revised decision so as to stop "poor pay which triggers Army exodus"?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The VI Central Pay Commission in its Report has recommended the following Revised Pay Scales for Army officers of the rank of Major to Brigadier;

Rank	Pre-Revised Scale+Rank Pay (Rs.)	Revised Pay Scale+Grade Pay+ Military Service Pay (Rs.)
Major	11600-325-14850+1200	15600-39100+6100+6000
Lt Col	13500-400-17100+1600	15600-39100+6600+6000
Colonel	15100-450-17350+2000	15600-39100+7600+6000
Brigadier	16700-450-18050+2400	15600-39100+8400+6000

No definite trend is noticed with respect to premature retirement/resignation subsequent to submission of VI Central Pay Commission Report.

The Government has not taken any final decision on the recommenadations of the VI CPC.

Indictment of MOD by CAG

3891. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in its recently submitted reports has indicted Defence Ministry for 57 gaping irregularities in acquisition process for the VIP aircraft and defective ammunition;

(b) if so, why his Ministry has deviated from the laid down procedures and well recognized norms of propriety in contracting the VIP aircraft valuing US$ 50 million without the benefit of competition and ammunition posing a risk to troops; and

(c) how army commanders with limited financial powers to meet operation requirements, squandered Rs. 10.75 crore in procuring stores not covered under their powers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Reports Nos. 4 & 5 of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2007 presented to Parliament on 14th March 2008 contains, *inter-alia,* Paras relating to acquisition of VIP Boeing Business Jets, avoidable loss due to acceptance of defective ammunition and misuse of special financial powers delegated to Army Commanders. The extant instructions provide for submission of Action Taken Notes on the audit observations to the Ministry of Finance for onward transmission to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

Opening of defence airstrips to commercial use

3892. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some 30 defence airstrips will be opened up for commercial traffic helping to reduce congestion at the existing airports;